

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub A¹* → 1. An interactive multimedia system, comprising:
a massively parallel video server for streaming a plurality of video streams;
a plurality of clients for receiving the plurality of video streams;
a high capacity transport system for transporting the video streams from the
massively parallel video server to the plurality of clients.
2. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, further comprising:
a set of display devices connected to the plurality of clients, respectively, for
displaying the video streams.
3. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, further comprising:
an encoder for encoding video and for storing the encoded video in the massively
parallel video server.
- Sub A²* → 4. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, further comprising:
a controller for monitoring the massively parallel video server, the high capacity
transport system, and the plurality of clients.
5. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, further comprising a web server for
storing data and sending the data via the high capacity transport system to the plurality of clients.
6. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein the massively parallel
video server includes a plurality of nodes and each of the plurality of nodes comprises:
a video server program for streaming one or more of the video streams from one
or more video titles stored in a plurality of disks;
an interface module for formatting the video streams into cells and transmitting
the cells on the high capacity transport system;
a disk controller for retrieving the video titles from the plurality of disks; and

a processor for running the video server program.

7. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein the high capacity transport system comprises one or more asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) switching systems.

Sub A³ 8. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein the high capacity transport system comprises pre-established connections associated with the plurality of clients, respectively.

9. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein the high capacity transport system comprises pre-established bidirectional connections associated with the plurality of clients, respectively.

10. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of clients comprises:
a browser program for retrieving the data from the web server;
a video client program for receiving one of the video streams and for controlling the video stream; and
a processor for executing the browser program and the video client program.

11. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein one or more of the plurality of clients includes a set top box.

12. The interactive multimedia system of claim 1, wherein one or more of the plurality of clients includes a personal computer.

13. The interactive multimedia system of claim 3, wherein the encoder comprises a real-time encoder for encoding real-time video.

14. The interactive multimedia system of claim 3, wherein the encoder comprises an off-line encoder for encoding off-line video.

15. The interactive multimedia system of claim 5, wherein the web server interfaces an Internet Protocol (IP) network.

16. The interactive multimedia system of claim 5, wherein the data is in Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format.

Sub A⁴ 17. A method for delivering interactive multimedia to a plurality of subscribers at a subscriber site, said method comprising the steps of:
streaming a plurality of video streams from one or more video titles stored in a massively parallel video server; and
transporting the video streams to a plurality of clients via a high capacity transport system.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
displaying the video streams on a plurality of display monitors connected to the plurality of clients, respectively.

19. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
encoding video and storing the encoded video as a video title in the massively parallel video server.

20. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
monitoring the massively parallel video server, the high capacity transport system, and the plurality of clients.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein the transporting step comprises the step of:

transporting the video streams on pre-established connections to the plurality of clients.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein the transporting step comprises the step of:
transporting the video streams on pre-established bidirectional connections to the plurality of clients.

23. The method of claim 17, wherein the transporting step comprises the step of:
transporting data stored in a web server via the high capacity transport system to the plurality of clients.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the encoding step comprises the step of
encoding real-time video.

25. The method of claim 19, wherein the encoding step comprises the step of
encoding off-line video.

26. The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of:
displaying the data on a plurality of display monitors connected to the plurality of clients, respectively.